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Classical Languages

Saint Mary's College of California

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CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

The specific aim of the Classical Languages Department is to provide a sufficient training for those majoring in classics to enable them to enter graduate studies in classics or various related fields of philosophy, ancient history, and archaeology (for example). The courses are broad enough in concept to satisfy the general cultural appetites of the college student, apart from any interest in further study.

Historically, the department has worked closely with the Integral Program: the lower-division Greek courses are identical to the language tutorial courses for the first two years.

Entering freshmen and transfer students will be placed in courses suitable to the level of their preparation.

FACULTY

John A. Dragstedt, Ph.D., Professor, Chair

Rali Christo, Ph.D., Adjunct

Michael Riley, Ph.D., Professor

Brother S. Dominic Ruegg, FSC, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus

LEARNING OUTCOMES

The learning outcomes for the Classical Languages Department fall under five headings:

1. **COMMAND** of grammar, syntax and morphology
2. **READING** knowledge of Greek and Latin
3. **INCREASED** communication skills
4. **FAMILIARITY** with classical scholarship
5. **BROADENED** awareness of historical linguistics

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

LOWER DIVISION

CLASSICS MAJOR

By arrangement.

GREEK MAJOR

Greek 3 and 4 or an acceptable equivalent are prerequisite to all upper-division courses, except for Greek 163 and 166.

LATIN MAJOR

Latin 3 and 4 or an acceptable equivalent are prerequisite to all upper-division courses, except for Latin 163.

UPPER DIVISION

CLASSICS MAJOR

Eight upper-division courses combining study of Latin and Greek.

GREEK MAJOR

Eight upper-division courses focused on Greek.

LATIN MAJOR

Eight upper-division courses focused on Latin.

MINOR REQUIREMENTS

The minor in Latin requires Latin 101, 102, 110, and two electives in Latin. The minor in Greek requires Greek 101, 102, 106, and two electives in Greek.

PREREQUISITE GRADE

Any course listed in this department with a prerequisite assumes a grade of C– or better in the prerequisite course.

C O U R S E S

LOWER DIVISION

GREEK

1 Elementary Greek

Beginner's course. Morphology, syntax, introduction to the reflective and scientific analysis of language. (Cross-listed as Integral 51.)

2 Elementary Greek

Continuation of Greek 1. Reading of texts of Plato and Aristotle.

Prerequisite: Greek 1. (Cross-listed as Integral 52.)

3 Intermediate Greek

Reading of selected authors, study of various types of discourse. Reading of Plato, Aristotle, lyric poetry, and drama. Discussion of logic, rhetoric, and dialectic. Prerequisite: Greek 2. (Cross-listed as Integral 53.)

4 Intermediate Greek

Continuation of Greek 3. Prerequisite: Greek 3. (Cross-listed as Integral 54.)

LATIN

1 Elementary Latin

Beginner's course. Morphology, syntax, exercises in composition and translation.

2 Elementary Latin

Continuation of Latin 1. Prerequisite: Latin 1.

3 Intermediate Latin

Reading of prose. Deepened study of language. Prerequisite: Latin 2.

4 Intermediate Latin

Reading of poetry. Prerequisite: Latin 3.

UPPER DIVISION

GREEK

101 Plato

A reading of a shorter and a longer dialogue with consideration of the contemporary background, and the range of philological and philosophical questions. A number of the dialogues that are lesser-known are read and considered in translation. An attempt is made to view the totality of Plato's work and life.

102 Homer

A study of epic dialect and technique of composition; methods of historical and literary interpretation. The nature of myth and a comparison of the diverse forms of ancient epic in various cultures are topics.

103 Greek Historians

The history of Greek historiography is studied by examples of the methods of Herodotus, Thucydides, Xenophon and Polybius from their texts.

105 Greek Orators

Why rhetoric was the major science of antiquity is investigated. Examples are taken from the canon of Attic orators.

106 Greek Dramatists

Greek playwrights are studied in as broad a representation as possible: the tragedians, Aristophanes and Menander.

107 Aristotle

A study of Aristotle's scientific method and its relationship to metaphysics as exemplified in the *Physics* and *Metaphysics*, as well as of his concept of dialectic as opposed to that of Plato.

110 New Testament Greek

A sampling of Hellenistic Greek is studied as background, and the course then concentrates upon the Gospels and Paul in selection.

115 Greek Lyric Poets

Special attention is accorded Pindar. The history of Greek lyric is studied in examples.

160 Greek Literature in Translation

Texts of epic, dramatic, lyric, and historical and philosophical genres are presented and discussed, and their relationships to modern literature considered.

163 Greek History and Civilization

A study of the religious, social, political, and economic conditions of Ancient Greece (2000-250 B.C.) through history and archaeology. Selected ancient authors are read in their historical context. The course is the first half of a study of ancient history. (Cross-listed as **History 181**.)

Offered in alternate years.

166 Classical Archaeology

A study of the topography and monuments of Greece and Rome. Methods of archeological research.

199 Special Study—Honors

An independent study or research course for upper-division majors with a B average in Greek. Permission of the instructor and department chair is required. Course normally requires Greek composition. On an individual basis, students work with composition textbooks in order to submit for revision their own renderings into Classical Greek.

LATIN

101 Cicero

The full variety of Cicero's texts is sampled, and he is located within the history of the Roman Republic.

102 Roman Historians

A study of representative texts of Sallust, Livy and Tacitus, with attention to the widest range of interpretative problems.

103 Patristic Latin

Texts of Tertullian, Augustine and Boethius are read, with special attention to *Confessions*.

104 Roman Comedy

A study of the plays of Plautus and Terence, with attention to contemporary social history and the traditions of the stage.

108 Horace

A study of Horace's major lyrics, with admission of various methods of interpretation for discussion.

109 Roman Law

The nature and history of Roman law is studied in translation. Its theoretical and historical relation to common law is examined.

110 Virgil

The entire corpus of Virgil's writing is sampled. Philosophical and literary problems are examined.

161 Latin Literature in Translation

Texts of all genres are considered. Historical background and mythological tradition are presented as well as connections to modernity.

163 Roman History and Civilization

A study of pre-Roman Italy and the growth of Rome into a worldwide empire (1000 B.C.—450 A.D.) through history and archaeology. Selected ancient authors are read in their historical context. The course is the second half of a study of ancient history. (Cross-listed as **History 182**.)
Offered in alternate years.

199 Special Study—Honors

An independent study or research course for upper-division majors with a B average in Latin. Permission of instructor and department chair is required.